IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows.

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are listed below. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

1. (Once Amended) An isolated cDNA, or the complement thereof, comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein selected from :

a) amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;

a2 b) an antigenic fragment of SEQ ID NO:1 from about amino acid residue P216 to about amino acid residue P235 of SEQ ID NO:1; and

c) a naturally occurring variant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 having at least 95% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.

2. An isolated cDNA comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from:

a) SEQ ID NO:2 or the complement thereof;

b) a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, selected from SEQ ID NOs:7-9, or the complement thereof; and

c) a variant of SEQ ID NO:2 having at least 85% identity to SEQ ID NO:2, or the complement thereof.

3. An isolated cDNA comprising a nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO:2

4. A composition comprising the cDNA of claim 1 and a labeling moiety.

5. A vector comprising the cDNA of claim 1.

6. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 5.

7. A method for using a cDNA to produce a protein, the method comprising:

a) culturing the host cell of claim 6 under conditions for protein expression; and

b) recovering the protein from the host cell culture.

8. A method for using a cDNA to detect expression of a nucleic acid in a sample comprising:

a) hybridizing the composition of claim 4 to nucleic acids of the sample under conditions to form at least one hybridization complex; and

b) detecting hybridization complex formation, wherein complex formation indicates expression of the cDNA in the sample.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising amplifying the nucleic acids of the sample prior to hybridization.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the composition is attached to a substrate.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein complex formation is compared with at least one standard to determine differential expression.

12. A method of using a cDNA to screen a plurality of molecules or compounds, the method comprising:

a) combining the cDNA of claim 1 with a plurality of molecules or compounds under conditions to allow specific binding; and

b) detecting specific binding, thereby identifying a molecule or compound which specifically binds the cDNA.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the molecules or compounds are selected from DNA molecules, RNA molecules, peptide nucleic acids, artificial chromosome constructions, peptides, transcription factors, repressors, and regulatory molecules.

14. A purified protein or a portion thereof produced by the method of claim 7 and selected from:

a) an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;

b) an antigenic epitope of SEQ ID NO:1; and

c) a biologically active portion of SEQ ID NO:1.

15. A composition comprising the protein of claim 14 and a pharmaceutical carrier.

16. A method for using a protein to screen a plurality of molecules or compounds to identify at least one ligand, the method comprising:

a) combining the protein of claim 14 with the molecules or compounds under conditions to allow specific binding; and

b) detecting specific binding, thereby identifying a ligand which specifically binds the protein.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the molecules or compounds are selected from DNA molecules, RNA molecules, peptide nucleic acids, peptides, proteins, mimetics, agonists, antagonists, antibodies, immunoglobulins, inhibitors, and drugs.

18. A method of using a protein to prepare and purify antibodies comprising:

a) immunizing a animal with the protein of claim 14 under conditions to elicit an antibody response;

b) isolating animal antibodies;

c) attaching the protein to a substrate;

d) contacting the substrate with isolated antibodies under conditions to allow specific binding to the protein;

e) dissociating the antibodies from the protein, thereby obtaining purified antibodies.

19. An antibody produced by the method of claim 18.

20. A method for using an antibody to diagnose conditions or diseases associated with increased expression of a protein, the method comprising:

a) combining the antibody of claim 19 with a sample, thereby forming antibody:protein complexes; and

b) comparing complex formation with a standard, wherein the comparison indicates expression of the protein in the sample.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of cancer of the prostate, ovary, breast, and brain, rheumatoid arthritis, asthma, and ulcerative colitis.

22. A method of treating rheumatoid arthritis comprising administering an effective amount of the composition of claim 15.